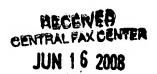
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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Previously presented) A combination comprising:
  a permeable facemask having a periphery adapted to abut a user's face; and a compressible
  gasket formed of a permeable filtering material on said periphery of said facemask adapted to sit
  between said periphery of said facemask and a face of a user thereby filling any space that may
  exist there between; said permeable facemask having an area for filtering air which is interior to
  said periphery and not covered by said gasket.
- 2. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 1 wherein said compressible gasket includes an active agent incorporated therein.
- 3. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 1 wherein said compressible gasket comprises a porous dielectric carrier.
- 4. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a non-woven material.
- 5. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a fiber based material having a fibrous three dimensional matrix structure.
- 6. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 3 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a sponge like material have an open cell matrix structure.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of metals and chemical compounds.

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- 8. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is an iodinated resin.
- 9. (Previously presented) A combination comprising:
  a permeable facemask having a periphery adapted to abut a user's face; and
  a compressible gasket formed of a permeable filtering material having an active agent
  incorporated therein on said periphery of said facemask adapted to sit between said periphery of
  said facemask and a face of a user thereby filling any space that may exist there between; said
  permeable facemask having an area for filtering air which is interior to said periphery and not
  covered by said gasket; wherein said compressible gasket includes an electrostatic charge there
  across.
- 10. (Cancelled)
- 11. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 9 wherein said compressible gasket comprises a porous dielectric carrier.
- 12. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a non-woven material.
- 13. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a fiber based material having a fibrous matrix structure.
- 14. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 11 wherein said porous dielectric carrier is a sponge like material have an open cell matrix structure.
- 15. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 9 wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of metals and chemical compounds.

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- 16. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 9 wherein said active agent is an iodinated resin.
- 17. (Cancelled)
- 18. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 5 wherein said fiber matrix structure is configured to entrap the active agent in said three dimensional matrix structure.
- 19. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 5 wherein the active agent is intermeshed with the fiber based material.
- 20. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 4 wherein said nonwoven material comprises a polymer fiber selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyethylene and polypropylene.
- 21. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein said active agent is a biostatic and/or biocidal material.
- 22. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of silver, copper, halogenated resin, and activated carbon.
- 23. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2 wherein the active agent is a metal, said metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, barium, boron, calcium, chromium, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, lead, potassium, silicon, sodium, strontium and zinc.
- 24. (Previously presented) The combination as in claim 2, wherein the active agent is a chemical compound selected from the group consisting of N-methyl piperazine, potassium hydroxide, zinc chloride, calcium chloride and a mixture of sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate.

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- 25. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 18 wherein the fiber based material includes an electrostatic charge there across, said electrostatic charge capable of generating a potential across the surface of said fiber based material.
- 26. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 25 wherein the electrostatic charge is single or multi-layered.
- 27. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 26 wherein the electrostatic charge is about 25 Kv.